

*Racing Australia is committed to ensuring that, from birth until their retirement from racing or breeding, Thoroughbred horses receive the best possible care. The Australian Rules of Racing give effect to this commitment and ensure, amongst other matters, that a Thoroughbred's location is recorded and available to authorities throughout its career.*

*When a Thoroughbred leaves racing, its Retirement Form records the horse's intended new location. However, neither Racing Australia nor State or Territory racing authorities have the power or legal ability to continue to track any subsequent changes in the location or ownership of a retired Thoroughbred.*

*A key reason Racing Australia supports the establishment of a National Traceability Register for All Horses is the greater visibility it would provide of retired Thoroughbreds to federal and state animal welfare authorities.*

*Racing Australia has published racehorse retirement information in its annual report since 2016, including if horses were notified of being sent to abattoirs or livestock sales. Random checks are undertaken to ensure retirement information provided to Racing Australia matches the actual destination/ownership of the Thoroughbreds.*

*With an estimated 1 million horses across Australia (including 300,000 Brumbies), Thoroughbreds horses represent approximately 10% of the national equine population. A National Horse Register would provide federal and state authorities with details of the ownership and location of all horses (as currently exists for racehorses during their careers), further strengthen Australia's biosecurity regime and assist in improving equine welfare outcomes nationally.*

*Barry O'Farrell, Racing Australia, Chief Executive Officer*